

# **COVID-19 Update for April 16, 2020: DPH Announces 61 Additional Positive Cases; 6 New Deaths; 24 Additional Recovered**

**SMYRNA (April 16, 2020)** – The Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH) is announcing six additional fatalities related to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and is providing an update on the number of positive cases and recovered individuals.

Due to system processing delays, today's positive case total may make it appear that Delaware is leveling out or seeing a decrease in the daily case count, however, that is not an accurate reflection of the situation in Delaware. The surveillance system is expected to be running normally tomorrow, and DPH anticipates seeing a significant increase in the overall number of cases once again.

In total, 52 Delawareans have passed away due to complications from COVID-19. Individuals who have died from COVID-19 ranged in age from 33 to 96 years old.

The most recent deaths involve individuals with underlying conditions:

- 57-year-old male from New Castle County, hospitalized long-term care resident
- 72-year-old female from New Castle County, hospitalized
- 84-year-old male from New Castle County, hospitalized
- 71-year-old male from New Castle County
- 59-year-old female from Kent County
- 68-year-old male from Sussex County, hospitalized long-term

care resident

To protect personal health information, DPH will not confirm specific information about any individual case, even if other persons or entities disclose it independently.

The latest Delaware COVID-19 case statistics, cumulatively since March 11, include:

- 2,075 total laboratory-confirmed cases
- New Castle County cases: 1,003
- Kent County cases: 352
- Sussex County cases: 698
- Unknown County: 22
- Males: 944; Females: 1,129; Unknown: 2
- Age range: 1 to 97
- Currently hospitalized: 209; Critically ill: 60 (This data represents individuals currently hospitalized in a Delaware hospital regardless of residence, and is not cumulative.)
- Delawareans recovered: 378
- 11,275 negative cases\*

\* Data are provisional and subject to change. Data on negative cases are preliminary, based on negative results reported to DPH by state and commercial laboratories performing analysis.

As of today, there have been 97 positive COVID-19 cases involving long-term care facilities in Delaware. Twenty-seven residents of Delaware long-term care facilities have died from complications related to COVID-19. This is a change from the report yesterday. Atlantic Shores Rehabilitation and Health Center was incorrectly listed as having five resident deaths; it has two (2) deaths among residents.

The locations and number of deaths related to long-term care facilities are:

- Little Sisters of the Poor, Newark (11)
- Milford Center, Genesis Healthcare (8)
- Atlantic Shores Rehabilitation and Health Center (2)

- Five New Castle County long-term care facilities (1 death each)
- A Sussex County long-term care facility (1 death)

DPH epidemiologists are transitioning to a new data reporting system. During the transition period, not all fields (county of residence, sex) have complete information.

Delaware is considering patients fully recovered seven days after the resolution of their symptoms. Three days after symptoms resolve, patients are no longer required to self-isolate at home; however, they must continue to practice strict social distancing for the remaining four days before returning to their normal daily routine.

If you are sick with any of the following symptoms, stay home: fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, muscle fatigue, or digestive symptoms such as vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain or lack of appetite. If you are sick and need essential supplies, ask someone else to go to the grocery store or the pharmacy to get what you need.

If you think you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, or have symptoms of illness, make sure to distance yourself from others, particularly vulnerable populations. Older adults and people of any age with serious underlying medical conditions – including serious heart conditions, chronic lung conditions, including moderate to severe asthma, severe obesity and those who are immunocompromised, including through cancer treatment – might be at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

Statewide testing at standing health facility testing sites require a physician's order or prescription to be tested (\*Bayhealth patients will be pre-screened via phone without needing to see a provider first). These are not walk-in testing sites. Those without a primary care provider can call the DPH Call Center Line at 1-866-408-1899. In New Castle

County, individuals can call ChristianaCare at 1-302-733-1000 and Sussex County residents who do not have a provider can call the Beebe COVID-19 Screening Line at 302-645-3200. Individuals awaiting test results, should wait to hear back from their medical provider. The DPH Call Center does not have test results.

Anyone with a question about COVID-19, whether related to medical or social service needs, should call Delaware 2-1-1; or 7-1-1 for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, or text your ZIP code to 898-211. Hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

In addition, the Division of Public Health asks any Delaware health care, long-term care, residential, or other high-risk facility with questions or concerns to email: [DPH\\_PAC@delaware.gov](mailto:DPH_PAC@delaware.gov) or call the DPH Call Center at 1-866-408-1899 and press ext. 2.

Questions can also be submitted by email at [DPHCall@delaware.gov](mailto:DPHCall@delaware.gov).

DPH will continue to update the public as more information becomes available. For the latest on Delaware's response, go to [de.gov/coronavirus](https://de.gov/coronavirus).